

Message Text

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14

ACTION CU-04

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P 041242Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8391
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 2692

STATE FOR CU/AF, USIA FOR IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, ET
SUBJECT: FY 76 IV PROGRAM: CULTURAL GROUP

REF: A. STATE 031329, B. ADDIS ABABA A-207

1. CULTURAL GRUUP MEMBER YIGEZU DESTA UNABLE TO TRAVEL WITH
GROUP BECAUSE HE PRESENTLY IN HUNGARY AND NOT EXPECTED TO RETURN
BEFORE JUNE 30, 1976.

2. YIGEZU DESTA'S FIRST ALTERNATE GETACHEW SHAY (LISTED REF B.)
NO LONGER SERVING AS CHAIRMAN, ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF YARED
MUSIC SCHOOL. THIS POSITION CANCELLED BY EPMG AND NEW DIRECTOR
OF SCHOOL NAMED.

3. NEW DIRECTOR OF YARED MUSIC SCHOOL IS ATO (MR.) DANIEL
YOHANNES, COMPOSER OF REVOLUTIONARY ETHIOPIA'S NEW NATIONAL
ANTHEM. POST PROPOSES THAT ATO DANIEL YOHANNES BE AUTHORIZED
TO TAKE YIGEZU DESTA'S PLACE IN THE CULTRUAL GROUP. FULL
BIO-DATA AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THIS NOMINATION FOLLOW:

A. ATO (MR.) DANIEL YOHANNES, BORN 1943 IN ASMARA, ETHIOPIA.
EDUCATION: BULGARIAN STATE CONSERVATORY 1967-73 AND MUNICH
UNIVERSITY 1973-74. PRESENT POSITION: DIRECTOR, YARED MUSIC
SCHOOL 1976. PAST POSITION: DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR FIN ARTS,
MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS AND YOUR 1975. HONORS: COMPTSER
OF EHT NATIONAL ANTHEM (1975), NINTH PLACE IN INTERNATIONAL
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COMPOSERS' CONTEST, MADRID, SPAIN, 1976. PUBLICATIONS: OVER

160 MUSICAL COMPOSITIONS. TRAVEL ABROAD: BULGARIA, 1967-73; FRG, 1974; ENGLAND, 1974 SPAIN 1976, LANGUAGE ABILITY: BULGARIAN, RUSSIAN, GERMAN, FRENCH, SERBO-CROATIAN, ENGLISH (EXCELLENT). MARTIAL STATUS: UNMARRIED. SPECIAL INTERESTS: SPORTS.

B. JUSTIFICATION: ATO DANIEL YOHANNES AS DIARCTOR OF YARED MUSIC SCHOOL OCCUPIES PEER POSITION WITH GROUP MEMBER ABDEL-RAHMAN SERIF (DIRECTOR OF FINE ARTS SCHOOL) AND IS ETHIOPIA'S MOST PROMINENT COMPOSER OF SERIOUS MUSIC. HE IS YOUNG, DYNAMIC AND DESPITE HIS EASTERN EUROPEAN EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND, EAGER TO GAIN AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE WEST. GETACHEW SHAY, PREVIOUSLY NOMINATED BY THE POST AS FIRST ALTERNATE TO YIGEZU DESTA, OWED HIS NOMINATION PRIMARILY TO HIS POSITION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOOL AT THE TIME NOMINATIONS OF THE CULTURAL GROUP WERE MADE (REF B., PG. 8). DANIEL YOHANNES MEETS THIS INSTITUTIONAL CRITERION AND OFFERS MUCH MORE BING A COMPOSER AND MUSICIAN HIMSELF. POST HAD DETERMINED THAT THIS NOMINEE WILL BE ABLE TO TRAVEL WITH GROUP THIS SPRING. GETACHEW SHAY WOULD BECOME DANIEL YOHANNES'S FIRST ALTERNATE AND ALEMU AGA WOULD REMAIN AS SECOND ALTERNATE.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S CONFIRMATION THIS NOMINATION BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.

5. DO NOT ANTICIPATE FURTHER DIFFICULTIES THIS GROUP. NOTE THAT NEED FOR ESCORT/INTERPRETER MENTIONED REF A. ABROGATED IF DANIEL YOHANNES REPLACES YIGEZU DESTA.

6. PENDING DEPARTMENTS'S PROMPT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE. POST CAN SUBMIT PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS RE GROUP PRIOR MARCH 15 DEADLINE.
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